Infrastructural development of DD/AIR in NER

1563. SHRI INDRAMONI BORA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will give priority to infrastructural development of Doordarshan and Akashvani in the North-East in the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, the approximate budget for the same and the break-up for Akashvani and Doordarshan;

(c) the budget for infrastructural development and the amount earmarked for the production of programmes; and

(d) the budget for commissioned programme out of this?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Tenth Five Year Plan proposals are yet to be finalized. However, a sum of Rs. 8.15 crores in the current Annual Plan and Rs. 77.50 crores in the Annual Plan 2002-03 have been provided for up-gradation of infrastructural facilities of Doordarshan/AIR and software development under the Special Package for the North Eastern States (including Sikkim).

Publication of newspapers

1564. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newspapers published in the year 2000-2001, language-wise; and

(b) the circulation of each of the newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The language-wise number of newspapers registered with the office of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) in the year 2000 and the language-wise